

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing links to remotely located information in a
2 network of remotely connected computers, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:
3 a) associating a shorthand link to each of a plurality of uniform resource locators
4 (URLs) by
5 i) requesting registration of a URL;
6 ii) selecting an unused key; and
7 iii) pairing said selected key with said URL as a shorthand link;
8 b) logging associated shorthand links in a registry database;
9 c) searching said registry database for a shorthand link associated with an URL
10 responsive to selection of said shorthand link; and
11 d) for each found said shorthand link, fetching said associated URL.

1 2. (Canceled)

1 3. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 2 1, wherein each key-URL pair is entered in
2 the registry database.

1 4. (Original) A method as in claim 3, wherein said fetched associated URL is presented to a
2 requestor, said requestor having selected said shorthand link.

1 5. (Original) A method as in claim 3, wherein said fetched associated URL is presented to a
2 requestor, said requestor having provided the paired key of the key-URL pair.

1 6. (Original) A method as in claim 5, wherein an error message is returned whenever a
2 requestor provides a key not paired with a URL.

1 7. (Original) A method as in claim 5, wherein when a provided key not associated with a
2 URL is identified as corresponding to a key in a key-URL pair, presenting the identified URL
3 to said requestor.

1 8. (Currently Amended) A method of providing links to remotely located information in a
2 network of remotely connected computers, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

- 3 a) associating a shorthand link to each of a plurality of files at a remotely
4 connected location by
 - 5 i) creating a list of files at said remotely connected location; and
 - 6 ii) selecting and associating an unused key with each listed file;
- 7 b) indexing shorthand links and associated files;
- 8 c) searching said index for a shorthand link associated with one of said plurality
9 of files responsive to selection of said shorthand link; and
- 10 d) for each shorthand link found, fetching the associated indexed file.

1 9. (Canceled)

1 10. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim ~~9~~ 8, wherein said fetched file is presented to
2 a requestor, said requestor having selected said shorthand link.

1 11. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim ~~9~~ 8, wherein said fetched file is presented to
2 a requestor, said requestor having provided the key associated with the fetched file.

1 12. (Original) A method as in claim 11, wherein an error message is returned whenever a
2 requestor provides a key not associated with a file.

1 13. (Original) A method as in claim 11, wherein when a key not associated with a file is
2 identified as corresponding to a key associated with a file, providing the file associated with
3 the identified key to said requestor.

1 14. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for providing links to remotely
2 located information in a network of remotely connected computers, said computer program
3 product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code
4 thereon, said computer readable program code comprising:

5 computer readable program code means for associating a shorthand link to each of a

6 plurality of uniform resource locators (URLs) including

7 computer readable program code means for requesting registration of a URL;

8 computer readable program code means for selecting an unused key; and

9 computer readable program code means for pairing said selected key with said

10 URL as a shorthand link;

11 computer readable program code means for registering associated shorthand links in a

12 database;

13 computer readable program code means for searching said database for a shorthand

14 link associated an URL responsive to selection of said shorthand link; and

15 computer readable program code means for fetching any found said associated URL.

1 15. (Canceled)

1 16. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as in claim ~~15~~ 14 further

2 comprising:

3 computer readable program code means for maintaining said database of registered

4 key-URL pairs.

1 17. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 16 further comprising:
2 computer readable program code means for presenting an URL to a requestor
3 responsive to said requestor selecting an associated shorthand link.

1 18. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 16 further comprising:
2 computer readable program code means for presenting an URL to a requestor
3 responsive to said requestor providing a corresponding paired key.

1 19. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 18 further comprising:
2 computer readable program code means for determining whether a provided key is a
3 paired key; and
4 computer readable program code means for indicating an error whenever said
5 provided key is determined not to be a paired key.

1 20. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 18 further comprising:
2 computer readable program code means for determining whether a provided key is a
3 paired key;
4 computer readable program code means for determining whether said provided key
5 corresponds to a paired key whenever said provided key is determined not to
6 be a paired key; and
7 computer readable program code means for presenting an URL paired with said
8 corresponding identified key.

1 21-26. (Canceled)